

THE  
MEDICAL AND SURGICAL REPORTER.

No. 609.]

PHILADELPHIA, OCT. 31, 1868.

[Vol. XIX.—No. 18.

ORIGINAL DEPARTMENT.

Communications.

OPERATION FOR THE REMOVAL OF A  
LARGE OSTEO-SARCOMATOUS TUMOR.

By I. SCOTT, M. D.,

Of Parkersburg, West Virginia.

I have frequently thought that, if the records of Surgery presented the history of successful cases only, the science would be only half complete. This is my reason for laying the following case before the medical profession.

In the early part of May, 1868, I was consulted by Mr. D. T., aged 53 years, a gentleman living near Petroleum, in Wirt County, West Virginia, respecting a tumor of a very large size, as exhibited in the accompanying photograph. It had been 12 years coming. It presented a hard feel, being evidently fibrous or osteo-sarcomatous; being attached to the left scapula, and moving in a very limited manner on the ribs and sub-scapular structure. He stated that his general health had up to that period been pretty good. But he omitted to mention one very important symptom in his case, which I had no opportunity of learning till after the operation, when the information came too late, namely, frequent attacks of vomiting blood, which occurred every few days, when he would throw up from a half to a whole pint of blood at a time. Had I learned that fact in time I would at once have refused to operate.

Had he mentioned his frequent vomitings of blood, I would have drawn the very natural and just conclusion that his constitution was too far impaired by the deleterious influence of so large a tumor, that it could not bear the shock of an operation. Indeed, I presented no sanguine hopes of recovery, but merely a

faint hope of prolonging an otherwise doomed life.

On the 19th of May, 1868, the day of the operation, we minutely examined the tumor. It filled up the axilla, elevating his arm, advancing to the nipple, and extending back so as to occupy a large portion of the scapula, to which it adhered, and extending two or three inches below the inferior angle of the scapula, and beyond the scapula nearly to the spine.

It was a genuine osteo-sarcoma, originating in the inferior angle of the scapula, with an osteo-cartilaginous shell, from two to three inches in thickness, containing a thick cancer-like malignant mass. All this was shown by dissection after the operation. Hence the constitutional ruin.

In the operation I was assisted by Drs. C. McLANE, CLARK, WILLIAMSON, CAMPBELL, COOPER, COLES, TRICKLE, VAN KIRK, WHITE, and HARRIS. After placing the patient on a table, and bringing him completely under the influence of chloroform, an incision was made in a slightly curved line from the superior angle of the scapula, around under the axilla to a point near the nipple, and crossed by another commencing near the neck of the scapula and terminating at the basis of the tumor, two or three inches below the inferior angle of the scapula. The flaps being detached and reflected, and the muscle also being detached from its deep seated connections and the scapula divided near its neck with the chain saw.

The scapula was so thoroughly implicated and imbedded in the mass, that it was found necessary to remove almost the whole of it. After securing the vessels the wound was dressed as usual, with sutures, adhesive straps, and bandages. The loss of blood was small, not more than sixteen ounces.

The patient rallied rapidly after the opera-

tion, his pulse became full and regular; his respirations were natural, and all nausea from the use of the chloroform soon disappeared. He slept well during the night, with the exception of some slight returns of nausea. At about 7 o'clock in the morning his symptoms suddenly changed, his pulse became frequent and almost imperceptible; his respirations were labored and frequent; his stomach and bowels became swollen, and his general appearance indicated extreme exhaustion from loss of blood. I examined the wound, but to my surprise not a drop of blood came from the vessels. Without delay I put him upon a resuscitating plan, by giving an ounce of best proof spirits with two of strong beef tea every hour by injection, and as much stimulus by the mouth as his stomach could bear, also mustard was used freely over his stomach and to his extremities. This plan was diligently and persistently followed through the day, without much perceptible effect, till between 7 and 8 o'clock in the evening, when he threw up more than a gallon of blood, and in a few minutes expired.

The tumor on the evening after the operation, when a pint or more of the semi-gelatinous contents of its cavity had been discharged, and all the fluids drained away, weighed 8 pounds, 10 ounces; so that its weight before it was removed cannot have been less than from 12 to 15 pounds.

#### A FEW REMARKS ON THE TREATMENT OF DIARRHŒA.

By WM. MASON TURNER, M. D.,  
Of Philadelphia.

In the few lines I may write, I have no idea of going into the subject abstrusely—giving the treatment according to the books—or my friend's, *Dr. So and So's* method. Nor am I purposing to divide, bisect, subdivide, and re-subdivide the diffuse theme, "diarrhœa." My intention is simply and in as few words as possible, to detail my own experience the past summer, and from that experience perhaps I may set forth something which may be practical, and in so far practical—beneficial.

I will premise by saying that I did not have a single case of diarrhœa, or any disease of a kindred nature until the 10th of July; but then they came upon me like the sweep of an avalanche—myself one of the first victims upon whom I could experiment.

I am well aware that in treating diarrhœa or anything else, we must first look to cause. However, cause or not, my treatment has not been entirely governed by any one set of circumstances. I have considered diarrhœa as peculiar to the summer season, and in searching further, any one interested cannot fail to find ample causes why. However, *revenons à nos moutons*.

My treatment for the first cases I had in the beginning of the diarrhœa season was in a nutshell (all things indicating it), to wit: calomel and opium in decided doses, seidlitz powder, Rochelle salt, or castor oil nine hours after commencement of exhibition of above. After two good stools, showing action of the mercury, I would gradually check the bowels with vegetable astringents, mustard or spice poultices to belly and stomach, ice in small quantities.

That was the treatment I first instituted, and it was successful. But here lately, I fancied I saw deleterious effects from the use of the calomel. My patients seemed suddenly to grow weak under its employment. I discontinued it at once, and without using the mercurial or the saline and anodyne treatment, I went at once to the astringents—vegetable. I have had some very bad cases of diarrhœa since I commenced this perhaps heretical plan of treatment, and thus far I have not failed to obtain the most satisfactory results. I have had some cases simulating cholera in their severity, and the plain astringent (and stimulating sometimes) treatment has been employed with fine success. My plan is, to wit: The first thing, give three drachms to four of the following mixture?

R. Tinct. opii camph.,  
Tinct. camph.,  
Tinct. zingib.,  
Tinct. krameriæ,  
Tinct. lav. comp., aa f. ʒj. M.

In an hour after, give every two hours, half-teaspoonful doses of the above for some six

or eight times. The bowels invariably are promptly checked. One day after the diarrhoea has ceased, open the bowels with ol. olivæ or the castor oil mixture. This practice may not be orthodox, but the stools are healthy, and remain so; and orthodox or not, it is successful.

PATHOLOGICAL OBSERVATIONS INVOLVING THE RELATIONS OF TUBERCLE, ALBUMEN, FAT, ETC.

By JOHN J. BLACK, M. D.,

Of New Castle, Delaware.

We here propose to lay before the profession the results of some post mortem observations in a large number of cases of persons dead from phthisis pulmonalis.

In many post mortems held upon such subjects during nearly six years of hospital resident life, we have never found the co-existence of tubercle in the liver and a fatty liver. Now, in perhaps most, or at least many cases of phthisis examined after death, we find the liver of a fatty appearance even to the unaided eye, and certainly many more are found in the transitoral stages by the assisted eye. We almost feel that we are making an audacious assertion because the distinguished LOUIS reported only about one-third of his cases with fatty liver, but such has been our observation. FRERICHs found the amount large in 67½ per cent. of cases he examined, besides those of the nutmeg character and others with smaller amount. The finding of tubercle in the liver is perhaps comparatively rare. LOUIS found but two cases in many examinations, but does not state whether or not they were also fatty.

Our own experience is founded on some eight cases of tuberculous liver, and in none of them was there the least tendency to fatty liver. We have found one case reported some thirty years ago (without reference to the point we are now discussing), as one of general tuberculous with fatty liver, and some small, apparently, tuberculous spots in it. All the lymphatic glands in the body were reported more or less enlarged, and many containing tubercles, and from the whole report the case appeared to be one rather of "progressive

enlargement of the lymphatic gland" with tuberculosis. If it be substantiated that the presence of tubercle and fat *never*, or rarely, co-exist in the liver of consumption, it may prove to be an interesting point in regard to the relations of fat and tubercle.

Again, another observation :

We have tested the urine of a large number of phthisis patients for albumen, and after death examined the kidneys particularly, and found in many cases that the organs were in a granular condition, whilst the urine during life had showed no albumen. A few on the other hand had shown the existence of albumen in the urine.

Of course we know that now and then in granular diseases, etc., of the kidneys, especially in the latter stages, we find little or no albumen, yet in these phthisis cases the proportion seems so great as to need a cause to explain it. Now the peculiar relations of albumen and tubercle are such as may at some future day give rise to an explanation of this, to me, apparent fact. We throw out these results of observation with the hope that others may think them worthy of further pathological investigation.

INCREASE OF POPULATION IN THE WEST.

By P. J. FARNSWORTH, M. D.,

Of Clinton, Iowa.

The Boston philosophers, who are making such an outcry about the decrease in native population, and the decline of old families, may find good reason for their complaints in Boston or other Massachusetts villages, but if they apply their theories to the rest of the country, they are empirics or the victims of a too hasty generalization, which, if they will get some reliable statistics from any part of the West, they will be convinced of.

In this city, on the west branch of the Mississippi, numbering about six thousand inhabitants, the "oldest inhabitant," has been about ten years. That is, the oldest child born here is about that age. The number of children, between five and twenty-one, for whom public school money is drawn, is over sixteen hundred. Two-thirds of them are

under fifteen. The number of children under five is somewhere near two thousand.

There are a large number of unmarried voters, and the largest vote cast yet was seven hundred and fifty; this fall it will be between eight and nine hundred.

Of the nativity of the people, one-half are from New England and New York, one-fourth from Pennsylvania, Ohio, and other States, one-fourth foreigners, from all nations of Europe—Germans and Irish predominating. Among the native American population, large families are the rule, and are fully equal to or outnumber the foreigners. Criminal abortions are sometimes produced, but are not common or alarmingly prevalent. One child a year, among the best families, is by no means uncommon. I have known of several double births this year, and one case of triplets. The mortality among children is very small in proportion to the numbers, so that soon we shall have a native population which in time may be able to people the "waste places" of the East.

I do not think this is a more favored place than others at the west. Chicago has just as large a proportion of children, as their public schools show, and the native population keeps in advance of the foreigners.

If it was required, I could give you exact figures for this city for two or three years past, to back up my statements. The eastern philosophers have overlooked the fact that the young and vigorous people have left their communities, and that their population is made up of the old people and the feeble ones, that the cause of decline in families is not so much degeneracy as emigration, and that the character of the foreign population is the same in that respect among them that all the population is here. There is probably not a hundred people in this city over sixty years old, and the majority are not over thirty five, and there is little restriction placed on increase.

There are many conclusions and moral reflections that may be drawn from these facts. I leave those to the philosophers, only holding myself in readiness to furnish the figures at any time, if called for.

## Medical Societies.

### CHEMUNG COUNTY MEDICAL SOCIETY, NEW YORK.

The semi-annual meeting of the Chemung County Medical Society was held at Elmira on October 6th, 1868, President, Dr. SQUIRE, in the chair.

Dr. WEY read the history of a case in which a patient, aged 23 years, gave birth to her first child, which presented by the breech. Child born alive. After the expulsion of the placenta, a tumor as large as an orange was expelled from the womb, followed in a few minutes by another, similar in size and shape. The tumors were presented. One weighed five ounces and three-fourths, the other six ounces and three-fourths. One was oval in shape and flattened, with a furrow extending obliquely through its long diameter, and dividing the mass nearly equally; the other was also oval in shape and flattened like a kidney, and thicker than the first, and made up of three lobes unequal in size, and separated by a deep fissure.

The tumors were smooth on their surfaces, and numerous bloodvessels were seen converging toward a larger vessel, which, like a stem, appeared to have been the attachment of those products, in one specimen at the very summit of the long axis of the mass, and the other one-fourth of the way from the superior angle, at the margin of the fissure referred to. The tumors were red and vascular externally, and on being cut, presented a fleshy appearance, and blood escaped from the incision. The practical question suggested by these morbid specimens is, what are they, or what have they been? Dr. WEY quoted from Hodge's work on Obstetrics, under the head of Abortions, to show that these growths had originally been placenta. His conclusions were that *three ova* had been impregnated, that one had gone on to develop to maturity, that the others, from some unknown cause, had perished by the rupture of the developing membranes, and every vestige of them had been absorbed, and that the placenta, obedient to a law which governs such products, under such circumstances, had been nourished to the full term of uterogestation, and had taken on the form that was presented in the specimens.

Dr. VELDER reported a case, of which the following is a synopsis.

Mrs. N., aged 43, a farmer's wife, short built, with strong bones and obese, carried a child to



maturity in Philadelphia, where she was delivered by cephalotripsy. She was then informed by her physician, that on account of malformation of the pelvis, she would not be able to give birth to a living child at the full time of gestation.

Some years afterward she was delivered of a mature female living child by means of the forceps.

Pregnant a third time, she aborted at the third month.

In her fourth pregnancy, she passed the full term, and was delivered by craniotomy.

In the fifth pregnancy, abortion occurred in third month.

In her sixth pregnancy, abortion at the same period.

At the full term of her seventh pregnancy, she was delivered of a living female child by forceps.

Upon completion of her eighth pregnancy, craniotomy was performed.

The two female children delivered by forceps were very small; those by craniotomy, uncommonly large. She is now pregnant again, and called on Dr. V. for the purpose of having an abortion produced.

The principal point of practical interest in the case was the propriety of inducing labor after the seventh month, and the most approved means of accomplishing such a result. The question was very generally discussed by the members, and the impression unanimous that it would be proper to adopt such a plan of treatment.

Dr. CHUBBUCK referred to a case under his observation, in which by reason of contracted pelvis, craniotomy at the full term had been resorted to on five occasions. He advised the woman to have labor induced by artificial means after the seventh month, upon the occurrence of her sixth pregnancy. But, preferring the advice of her spiritual adviser, who strongly condemned such a measure, she passed on to the full limit of uterogestation, and was delivered of a living child after a very brief labor. Child small and feeble, and survived but a week.

The president, Dr. SQUIRE, presented a boy, four years old, who had been under treatment four months for *talipes varus*. The deformity at the beginning of treatment, as shown by a photograph, and the shoes, which the child had worn, was of the most marked character of this variety of affection. The Doctor reviewed the old method of treatment by the division of tendons, and subsequent tedious confinement with adhesive plaster and bandage, and explained the principles, upon which the more recent and

rational treatment was based. It was simply to institute a strife or struggle between the muscles, which were unduly active, and the artificial muscles, which are used as helps and supports to those, which are partially paralyzed, through whose lack of power the deformity is made to depend. The operation of dividing the tendons, which are supposed to produce the affection by undue contraction, is wholly useless; inasmuch as it is through no fault of the contracting tendons that the misshaped foot is produced and continued. The treatment does not consist in diminishing their power, but in giving power to the enfeebled muscles on the other side. In other words there is an antagonism between muscles of strength and muscles of lessened strength, and the feeble muscles are to be encouraged by artificial help. Shoes were adjusted to the feet in the case presented, and the sole of the shoe making a fixed point, the artificial muscles were, as closely as possible, placed in the situations which the impaired muscles occupy.

The artificial muscle was exhibited, it is a piece of india rubber tubing, which represents the tendinous origin and insertion. In addition to these means, the Doctor had perfected a foot-piece for use at night, consisting of a plate of tin with a lateral ridge and a heel-piece, so adjusted as to cause the feet to maintain the same position in the night secured by a strap, that they did during the days in the shoes. Dr. S., imputed to this contrivance as much advantage in the management of the case, as should be credited to the shoes.

The boy walked around the room with ease and confidence, his toes pointing outward and his heels firmly resting on the soles of the shoes.

This alone is now required to perfect the cure, the progress of which, from first to last, has been without pain or inconvenience to the child.

#### The Vesicles of Hydrophobia.

At a recent meeting of the *Académie de Médecine* Dr. AUZIAS TURENNE read a paper on the vesicles which appear under the tongue in cases of rabies. The original seat of the wound he calls the rabid chancre, and considers that the virus and general course of the disease bear a marked analogy to syphilis. Cauterization of these vesicles does not check the disease. When they appear in large numbers and slowly, it may be regarded as a favorable sign. It is well to inspect the tongue frequently in the disease.

## EDITORIAL DEPARTMENT.

## Periscope.

## Disinfectants and Deodorizers.

M. VEKSTRAEL, in a paper read before the Academy of Sciences, of which the *Chemical News* gives an abstract, proposes to attain the conditions required of disinfectants by the following processes: 1. To decompose the sulphide and carbonates of ammonium, the chlorides are employed, either of iron, zinc, or preferably manganese. Sulphates are absolutely proscribed, for the reason that the putrefying matters react on the sulphate of ammonia formed by double decomposition, the final result being the evolution of sulphuretted hydrogen, so that after a little time it is necessary to disinfect a second time. The chloride of manganese proposed as a disinfectant, would be obtained from the chlorine residues of manufactories, a product which is stated to be valueless. The residues contain too much hydrochloric acid to be immediately available: the acid is neutralized either by the oxides of iron or zinc, or by dolomite. By this saturation of hydrochloric acid with lime and magnesia, the value of the product as a manure is greatly enhanced. Experiments on a large scale showed the product to be very rich in nitrogen and in phosphoric acid, and the fluid, after this treatment, was found to contain no phosphoric acid. Manganese, as well as magnesia, has been demonstrated by the recent works of M. PELIGOT, to be easily assimilated by plants. To render the action of the chloride of manganese still more efficacious, five litres of chloride of lime solution of 12° are added to one hundred litres of the manganese solution. 2. Notwithstanding the value of the disinfectant thus prepared, metallic salts by themselves can effect no complete and permanent disinfection; no influence will be exerted upon the offensive odor, *sui generis*, of the refuse matter. The antiseptic agent introduced for this purpose is tar solidified by admixture of einders, deprived of sulphurous compounds by exposure to the air for fifteen or eighteen months. In this mixture are contained a considerable quantity of sulphate of alumina, fifteen or twenty per cent. of finely divided carbon, fifty or sixty per cent. of nitrogen, and protosulphate of iron and silica in small quantity. In the place of the solidified tar, the heavy oil of tar residues have been employed with equal success. Lastly, to clarify refuse water, a solution of im-

pure sulphate of alumina, employed in the doses of a kilogramme per cubic mètre, has been found to give very remarkable results; this solution serves to clarify the liquid, and to cause the deposition of the solid matter. A cesspool of 30 cubic mètres, in Rue des Jeuneurs was treated with 650 kilogrammes of manganese and 35 kilogrammes of chloride of lime liquid, then 180 kilogrammes of the aluminous powder with tar. After the liquid had been agitated and allowed half an hour's rest, it was clear and inodorous. The sanitary inspectors and other critics who witnessed the experiment, testified that the matters were completely disinfected. After the liquid had been poured off into the sewer, the atmosphere of the receptacle was tested by the lowering of a light, after which two workmen descended, who found no other odor than a slight one of benzol.

## Discharge of a Fœtus Through the Rectum.

Dr. KOEHLER exhibited recently before the New York Pathological Society, the skeleton of a fœtus that had been passed per rectum. A lady, twenty-four years of age, became pregnant for the second time. The first three months of the pregnancy were passed under continual hypogastric pains. Then, suddenly, a pint of coagulated blood escaped through the vagina, whereupon the pains decreased and discontinued. She went to a physician well-known to me for advice. When he tried to introduce the uterine sound into the orifice, he was unable to succeed. The cervical portion of the uterus was scarcely accessible. The patient consulted several other physicians, who advised her to await events. Normal movements of the fœtus from the end of the fourth month to the end of the pregnancy were ascertained. The prolimina of the birth appeared at the right time. The pains, however, had no effect; they lasted for three weeks, decreased by and by, and finally subsided. Then the secretion of milk took place. The patient became emaciated and cachectic. Two months after the end of the normal duration of pregnancy, a rectitis and an abscess in the anterior wall of the rectum made their appearance, and a quantity of decomposed pus and ichor soon escaped through the rectum. Hairs of a fœtus were detected in the discharged matter. The skeleton of the fœtus then escaped through the rectum within the period of three days. The bones of the cranium following the other bones were removed by means of a polypus-forceps, either entire or broken. The aperture of the abscess was located one and a half inches above

the anus. The diameter of the opening, when relaxed, measured one inch. One month after the evacuation and removal of the bones perfect convalescence and menstruation took place.

The enlargement of the abdomen during the whole period of the pregnancy was uniform, not lateral, and the cervix uteri, even at the end of that period, was for a closer examination inaccessible. The patient was not confined to bed.—*Med. Record.*

#### Permanganate of Potash.

This salt has been tried carefully in the Jacksonville Surgical Infirmary, and it is reported that from comparative trials made with it and carbolic acid in erysipelas, putrefaction and complications of wounds, permanganate is believed to be greatly superior to carbolic acid and to everything else which has been tried. It is applied over wounds and upon erysipelatous surfaces in nearly a saturated solution. Over wounds it is best applied by laying on a portion of lint saturated with the solution. This is probably the best application to make to bullet wounds and those attendant upon compound fractures. By preventing the putrefactive change in the exudations and effusions, the extension into them of the organizing process is greatly favored. Care should be taken not to apply the solid salt, as it acts as a caustic.

#### Muscular Rheumatism.

A correspondent of the *Chicago Medical Examiner* writes as follows about this disease:

"Many years ago, Mr. CARMICHAEL, the celebrated surgeon of Dublin, had sciatica gradually creep on him till he was entirely disabled. For some little time, if I mistake not, before he yielded to it, he had to be carried from his carriage to his lecture-room. He had been in the habit of working very hard in his profession, eight hours a day, from breakfast to dinner, without any form of lunch. This proved too much for him, as it probably will for any man.

"When he concluded to be treated efficiently, he came to a hot spring in the Pyrenees, and had a warm bath every day, with a dose of Pil, hydrarg. every night, and seidlitz powder in the morning. This course restored him the use of his limb within a reasonable time. I have tried a similar course with the best effect in old, confirmed cases.

"But the remedies I use in acute cases are calomel in small doses, 1 or 2 grains, with gum guaiac, and Dover's powder, three times a day. The Dover's powder in doses sufficient to soothe the pain, 3 to 5 grs., and the guaiac in 8 or 10 gr. doses. These I accompany with a warm

water (with salt) sponge-bath every morning, to be followed by good rubbing, with dry towels. A cathartic of castor oil once in two or three days, if the powders do not act sufficiently, and sometimes if they do act some, is very useful.

"With this course my cases have uniformly yielded. It is quite possible that belladonna would prove a better remedy in these cases.

"In my case, the pain commenced at the sacroiliac junction, and extended across the back affecting the lumbar muscles. It was attended with a general failure of the secretions, gradual whitening of the tongue, and increased heat of the skin. The remedies gave me relief in a very few days."

#### Case of Triplets.

Dr. S. M. RYKER, of Lebanon, Ind., reports in the Cincinnati *Lancet and Observer* a case of triplets. Mother aged 35; second labor; head of first child presented favorably; born in twenty minutes, cord around neck; second child, breech, born fifteen minutes after first, cord around chest; third child, head, delivered by second pain after the last, cord around neck. One placenta adherent at fundus, delivered by introduction of hand. Mother had a good recovery; children, two male and one female, were all doing finely several months after birth. They weighed at birth, respectively, six and a half, seven and eight pounds.

## Reviews and Book Notices.

### NOTES ON BOOKS.

Those who do not read German may be glad to learn that Professor HELMHOLTZ's "Physiological Theory of Music founded on a Study of the Auditory Sensations," has been translated into French by Dr. GUEROUULT, with the assistance of the celebrated composer WOLFF. A fourth edition of RACLE's "Diagnostic Medical" has appeared with additions by Doctor BLANCHET.

Under the title "Des Kyates séreux et acéphalocystiques de la rate," Dr. MAGDELAIN gives an historical account of the operation of splenotomy and a series of reflections on the advisability of the operation.

A handsome contribution to sanitary science is a work by Professor GWELT of the Berlin Medical School. It is a series of 16 folio plates in chromo, representing the best models of ambulances, chiefly based on the models exhibited at the international exhibition in 1867. A text likewise in folio, explanatory of the plates is attached.

## Medical and Surgical Reporter.

PHILADELPHIA, OCTOBER 31, 1868.

S. W. BUTLER, M. D., & D. G. BRINTON, M. D., Editors.

### REDUCTION OF PRICE.

It will be observed that in the Prospectus of the HALF-YEARLY COMPENDIUM, published herewith, we announce a REDUCTION OF PRICE in the REPORTER AND COMPENDIUM, by Prepaying Postage on all paid Subscriptions.

This arrangement will date from January 1st, 1869.

Medical Society and Clinical Reports, Notes and Observations, Foreign and Domestic Correspondence, News, etc. etc., of general medical interest, are respectfully solicited.

Articles of special importance, such especially as require original experimental research, analysis, or observation, will be liberally paid for.

To insure publication, articles must be practical, brief as possible to do justice to the subject, and carefully prepared, so as to require little revision.

We particularly value the practical experience of country practitioners, many of whom possess a fund of information that rightfully belongs to the profession.

### MAN IN NATURE.

For a long time the attention of anatomists was directed to the points of diversity that exist between man and the lower mammalia. He was supposed to be a creature *sui generis*, on a plan of his own, with gifts distinct not so much in degree as in kind from other organic forms, a more direct production of Deity, and bearing about him incontrovertible marks of his nobler lineage. BLUMENBACH pointed in triumph to the absence of the inter-maxillary bone in the human skeleton, and OWEN challenged the anatomists to point out any hippocampus minor, or any posterior cornu of the lateral ventricle in the brains of apes. Some denied that these latter animals possessed any feet, in the strictly anatomical sense of that term, and others discovered in the position of the thumb with relation to the other digits, satisfactory reasons for thinking man absolutely distinct from anthropomorphoid monkeys.

But, one by one, these distinctions disappeared before more exact research. The great GOETHE, with the eye of a genius, saw and said, that the intermaxillary bone was as really present in the human cranium as in that of the horse. OWEN's assertion proves com-

pletely erroneous, and in fine, all anatomical peculiarities of the kind diminish to mere questions of greater or less development.

Then DARWIN and his followers arose, and from a study of nature pursued with the most microscopic accuracy and marvellous patience, deduced the principle that all those so-called specific differences of form, are merely the greater or less development of the same morphological idea.

As if in corroboration of this idea, just at this time the archæologists and antiquarians brought into the arena of debate their skulls from the Neanderthal and California and Engis, their darts and relics of primitive kitchens from the quaternary, their skeletons of men who lived when the reindeer browsed where now the warm southern sun ripens the grape and orange, and when the mastodon roamed over our hills.

This gives plenty of time for any amount of changes in structure to take place, and removed one of the serious difficulties in DARWINISM applied to the human race.

But an unexpected and remarkable impediment to the theory here presents itself—these oldest skulls and most ancient human remains, do not in the least exhibit that degradation of type which it was confidently expected they would. On the contrary, the brain was clearly quite as large, the bones well proportioned, and as indicated by the marks of the insertions of muscles, this extinct race was of vigorous growth and fine manly proportions.

Moreover, they were evidently acquainted with the use of fire, the art of cooking, the manufacture of various utensils of war and peace, and paid some attention to beautifying their persons; all very different from the highest or any type of apes. Of course these facts are regarded with rage and mortification by extreme Darwinists, and they live in hope that the connecting link will somewhere turn up. But as the question now stands, the verdict must be, that while analogy and the general tendency of the most recent researches in natural history are strongly in their favor, the facts so far discovered and recorded of man's earliest history bear decidedly against them.



## NEW MEDICAL UNIVERSITY IN NASHVILLE, TENN.

Just what was to be expected, has happened. The disagreements in the Medical Department of the University of Nashville have ended in the formation of a new medical college. It is announced that under the lead of Drs. PAUL F. EVE and THOS R. JENNINGS, two of the ejected members of the University Faculty, the MEDICAL DEPARTMENT OF THE CUMBERLAND UNIVERSITY has been organized and will commence its first regular course of instruction on the 2d of November. Dr. E. S. GAILLARD, late of Richmond, now of Louisville, is also named as one of the faculty.

We are very sorry to see this movement. It divides forces that need to act in harmony. Nashville cannot support two "medical colleges," much less two medical universities. We want medical universities badly enough—but not two of them in a city like Nashville. If our friends there could only reconcile their differences and expend their energies—and there are few more energetic men—on one school, they might cause a return of the ante bellum days when the Nashville school was the second or third in the country in its number of matriculants. If they cannot do this, would it not be better for them all to retire and let some other parties try to build up one good medical school in Nashville?

## Virchow and Robin.

These two distinguished physiologists are carrying on a polemic with considerable acrimony in the *Gazette Hebdomadaire de Médecine et de Chirurgie*. VIRCHOW is particularly severe in his criticisms on ROBIN's materialism.<sup>(1)</sup> The question at issue is among the most obscure in physiology—the significance of the phenomenon of irritation. ROBIN considers it strictly chemical, while VIRCHOW defines it to be "the faculty which a body has to acquire under the influence of certain agents (irritants), a state (irritation) in which the body's own activity comes into play." He elucidates this definition by adding that these terms *agent*, *state*, *activity*, are not to be understood in any spiritualist sense, but in the sense in which they are employed in mechanics. It looks as if the Berlin professor was awaying back to some mediæval arche.

## Notes and Comments.

## Prof. Meigs' Introductory.

The eloquent and learned Address delivered on the 12th inst., by Prof. J. AITKEN MEIGS, as Introductory to his course on Physiology in the Jefferson Medical College, has been issued from this Office in a neat pamphlet form. The subject—"The Correlation of the Physical and Vital Forces," is one of interest and importance, and there is no one more capable of bringing it intelligently before the profession. Those desiring copies will receive them by mail, on inclosing twenty-five cents to this office.

## Transmission of Impressions from Mother to Fœtus.

Dr. S. P. CRAWFORD, of Greenville, Tenn., reports in the *Nashville Journal of Medicine*, on the authority of "one competent to judge," the following sad case. A lady in the last stage of gestation was burned by the explosion of a kerosene oil can. She lived twelve hours after the accident. The face, legs, arms, and abdomen were completely vesicated, and in many places the skin was entirely destroyed. The movements of the child were felt three or four hours after the accident. A short time before the death of the mother she gave birth to the child at full maturity, but still-born. *It bore the mark of the fire corresponding to that of the mother. Its legs, arms, and abdomen were completely vesicated, having all the appearances of a recent burn.*

A very important physiological fact, if Dr. CRAWFORD was not misled.

## Starling Medical College, Ohio.

We are glad to hear that this college located at Columbus, Ohio, still exists. We supposed that it was defunct long ago, and would not now have known of its existence if its trustees had not had the good sense recently to appoint to the chair of Puerperal Diseases and Diseases of Children, our old friend, Dr. T. A. REAMY, of Zanesville.

This college has kept its light hid under a bushel. We hope that Dr. REAMY will stir up its faculty to let the world know they exist. In the olden time there were some good men in it, no doubt there are yet—but we have not seen or heard of an announcement for years.

— Dr. CHARLES L. IVES, of New Haven, has succeeded the late Dr. WORTHINGTON HOOKER as Professor in the Yale Medical School.

## Correspondence.

## DOMESTIC.

## Our "Question in Ethics."

[Seems to be regarded by our correspondents with the diversity which we anticipated. From several communications we select two which illustrate how variously members of our profession regard the topic, and the necessity of a full and clear understanding of the subject. We will merely remark, that in regard to the "misconstruction of the early fathers" we applied for information on that point—as it was what old Doctor RABELAIS calls *matiere de breviaire* and out of our line—to a learned and prominent clergyman we believe of the same church as the one to which our correspondent alludes, and to the best of our ability reported his words aright.—Eds.]

## EDITORS MEDICAL AND SURGICAL REPORTER:

Your editorial of the 16th, entitled "a question in ethics," was surely written in great haste. You state, "No physician hesitates to perform craniotomy, or the operation of abortion, where it is evident that the child cannot be born alive." Now I would hesitate in either case, and I am justified in so doing by facts. In the cases of craniotomy that I have had, fortunately the children were dead, this fact being ascertained by cessation of pulsation in the cord; and I was not killing the child, but if not, the recollection of a case occurring in the practice of the late Dr. NANCREDE, as related by Dr. HODGE in his *System of Obstetrics*, page 285, would conscientiously impel any one to hesitate. Here was a woman with deformed pelvis who twice suffered the operation of craniotomy, it taking two or three days each time to complete the operation, which was attended with great risk to life, yet in second labor (1837) and the fourth labor (1839) she had living children by the operation of "gastrotomy," probably living to this day. This case is well worth recalling to the mind of the profession, and would accomplish more good than the assertion rashly made in your journal, the whole tenor of which is bad, and tends to encouraging an evil in the laity, which daily meets the practising physician in his rounds. Many do not need any misconstruction of the early fathers, but qualify themselves and keep a family skewer to destroy the fetus in the recurring pregnancies. I have attended not long since a case in which abortion was performed by one of our practising physicians of good reputation, for which he received \$30. The mother was

in great jeopardy, and feels the effect of the operation to this day.

She justified herself on the ground that she should always be in a condition to accompany her husband in his travels, lest some other lady might inveigle his affections from her, and of course that Doctor sustained her in her argument. Who knows in producing abortion that he is not destroying both mother and child. A procured abortion is a very dangerous operation in my opinion, and should not be spoken of in the light phraseology that you have employed. If there is no direct injunction in the precepts of Christianity against the prevention of conception, we know it is a sin against nature, and my religious education impulsively urged me to exclaim in reading your article, What a horrible doctrine! As to the moral guilt, I do not think the use of sponges and sheaths to prevent conception a whit less odious than masturbation. The physician has no right whatever to advise such things. If persons with sickly constitutions will marry, on them be the consequences, not on us. If they cannot conscientiously perform the marital duties without entailing death on the offspring, on them be the consequences, they have free will, and can separate permanently or temporarily as is often advised by good physicians in cases of habitual abortion. I am impelled thus to speak by a sense of duty. I have attended a Mrs. C., in two labors with living children, who had previously on three different occasions by three different physicians been condemned, they stating that in their opinion she ought never to conceive, as she could not bring forth living children. Were they not hasty? and were they not guilty from their haste? In my hands she brought forth living children, one of whom is at present living. This is why I protest against the tone of the article. A distinguished clergyman to whom I applied for information, makes the assertion, that you are in no wise warranted in the statement you have made about St. John Chrysostom, viz., "He saw no evil *per se* in the limited avoidance of offspring by means in themselves innocent." He states that the only means allowable (and which St. John meant) is total abstinence from sexual intercourse. He states further, that if you will call on him he will show you that your whole article is surrounded by propositions condemned by his church. I dislike to find fault with your valuable journal, I am an old subscriber, and this is the first time I have had occasion to do so; but I am satisfied that there are many who with me view such propositions with horror, not only for the intrinsic evil of the doctrine, but

also for the terrible consequences to the human race. The same doctrine would justify the Chinese in their destruction of the cripple and aged of society.

M. O'HARA, M. D.

EDITORS MED. AND SURG. REPORTER:

In the REPORTER of 10th inst., you gave us "a question in ethics." "Is it wrong to prevent conception?" which, after due consideration, is very properly decided in the negative. Sexual intercourse always has and always will, doubtless, be indulged in, and for other purposes than that alone of procreation; leaving out the dark feature of illicit intercourse, this function between man and wife, properly regulated, would seem to have been given as a strong tie of affection, a bond of love and trust. But the laws of physiology are such that—as in all law—the proper conditions supplied a certain result must follow, i. e., conception. But excessive child-bearing is known to have hopelessly wrecked the "women whom we remember as blooming girls." It may to some savor of a transcendental morality to say, "abstain from coition except for the purpose of procreation." Say to the parties if you will, "You cannot with safety to your physical or moral nature 'obey the laws of married life' oftener than once in three, five or seven years;" thunder these sentiments in their ears, day by day; spread them out before their eyes in staring type again and again, if you like—and are anxious to "write for the press"—but you only show what an unwarranted confidence you have in the weight of your own words, for they will only laugh at you; they may concede the theory, perhaps, but will surely declare it *impracticable*. Thus men have ever talked, and thus have they been answered in word and in practice. Now what shall be done? Men will not abstain, all mechanical appliances are condemned as "generally, if not invariably, tending to produce disease and shorten life." An "imperfect coition" is no more nor less than onanism; the cold water injection—often taken nightly—is, it seems to me, ruining the health of many a woman; the "agenetic period" theory of many physiologists is vague, and the reliability of it in practice doubtful—for who that knows anything of physiology does not know that a woman *may* be impregnated at any time.

Now, I repeat, what shall be done? How shall man so use this function—as not abusing—as to be in accord with his domestic, financial and social circumstances? Ought we not, if we are, as we pretend to be, in part philanthropists, in the exercise of our profession, ought we not to

freely discuss this question, and give to the public all possible light and knowledge thereon. From the medical profession, if from any source, must this knowledge come. Until this is done "specialists" of the various types will thrive, will outrage the feelings of all scientific and all decent men, will rob the people in plying their disgusting, degrading and criminal vocations. Again, what shall be done? Will you be so good as to let us hear from you again through the REPORTER?

A SUBSCRIBER.

Chenango Co., N. Y.

Tonka Bean in Pertussis.

EDITORS MED. AND SURG. REPORTER:

It was suggested to me that the Tonka bean would be useful in pertussis, as it contained a large percentage of *coumarin*, the active principle of the clover tops—*trifolium melilotis*—recommended for that disease. An opportunity offered to try the effect of it, and in the first case, a child of three years, the results were such as to give encouragement. Subsequently I have tried it in four more cases, two of which were of a grave type. The oldest—a little girl of five years—was a great sufferer, the paroxysms frequent and exceedingly severe, disturbing her sleep frequently during the night. She began with 5 drops of the fluid extract in sweetened water every three hours, increased to 8 after the third dose. Relief was soon felt, and the paroxysms gradually subsiding she soon slept all night, and her cough now seems more like that of an ordinary cold than that of pertussis. The parents in each case have expressed themselves forcibly in praise of the "drops."

In one case the medicine was all taken and the parents felt the disease cured, and failed to procure more of it. In a few hours the paroxysms returned, when they sent for more of the fluid extract which again has given relief. With these facts before me I cannot but feel that in the Tonka we have a remedy which will be of incalculable benefit to children. As far as my observation is concerned, I could not say that the bean cures, nor will I attempt an explanation of its effects, but it surely gives relief, and further experience with it will lead to an estimate of its therapeutical effect. It is to be hoped that the profession will examine into it with care, for I am convinced we have in it a means of saving many lives, besides giving great relief to all who suffer from the disease.

JOHN COOPER, M. D.

Philadelphia, October, 1868.

## News and Miscellany.

### RECEPTION OF PROFESSORS PANCOAST AND GROSS.

In preparing a report of the proceedings on this interesting occasion, we make liberal use of the very full report published in the *Press* of this city.

The return from a tour abroad, of the distinguished Professors PANCOAST and GROSS, was deemed, by a number of our citizens, as an auspicious occasion to do honor to these celebrated men, who have obtained a high name on the scroll of fame, and at the same time have a happy re-union of noted gentlemen.

A committee was consequently appointed, consisting of gentlemen who had every arrangement made that would tend to give comfort to the guests and enliven the occasion. It affords us pleasure to print their names in this connection:

DRS. ELLWOOD WILSON, President; FRANK F. MAURY, Secretary; Addinell Hewson, Richard J. Lewis, John H. Brinton, Wm. B. Atkinson, William W. Keen, Thomas H. Andrews, J. Ewing Mears, Ralph M. Townsend, Messrs. H. W. Newcomb, S. H. Dickson, Jr., C. B. McGrath, A. W. Calhoun, H. G. Landis.

Arrangements were made by the Committee to give Drs. PANCOAST and GROSS a fitting reception at the American Academy of Music on Saturday evening last, and a large number of invitations were issued to medical men of this and other cities, and to some of our distinguished citizens.

Professors PANCOAST and GROSS were ushered into the Foyer shortly before nine o'clock, and were presented to their friends and members of the medical profession, amongst whom were the following eminent gentlemen: Professor NATHAN R. SMITH, of Baltimore, who was the first Professor of Anatomy in the Jefferson Medical College; Professor AUSTIN FLINT and his son, of New York; Professor KINLOCK, of South Carolina; Professor GEORGE T. ELLIOTT, of New York; Professor LEWIS A. SAYRE, of New York; Dr. JOHN L. ATLEE, of Lancaster, Pa.; Dr. MARION SIMS, of New York; Professor NATHAN BOZEMAN, of New York, and his Honor, Mayor McMICAHEL.

One of the reception rooms adjoining the Foyer was filled with ladies, whose radiant countenances and magnificent dresses lent a charm to the festivities.

The proceedings were enlivened by the Germania Band, under the directorship of Mr. DIETRICH.

The greeting of welcome was then delivered in a most able manner, by Dr. ADDINELL HEWSON, who said:

GENTLEMEN: The purpose of our being here this evening is to extend a cordial welcome home to two of the most honored and distinguished members of the medical profession, who, having sought rest and recreation in a brief sojourn abroad, have now returned to us with, we hope, renewed strength and zeal, to continue the mission they have always so well fulfilled, of both teachers and counsellors.

There are, I know, many here to-night whose associations with the Jefferson Medical College will, like my own, carry them back over a long period of years. They can recall, with me, the indelible impression of the almost God-like character of our vocation which was made on our minds by witnessing the brilliant operations of one of these gentlemen, whose clear head, good heart, and steady hand have done so much to exalt surgery. They have also experienced, when they were about to graduate, my feelings of pride and exultation at the idea of becoming a fellow alumnus with one who was then esteemed the most erudite teacher and practitioner of surgery in America; and they exulted with me afterward, in the fact that our Alma Mater and our good city could attract and retain, from an empire of surgery in the West, this one whose services our rival city in science and commerce had utterly failed to secure. I, therefore, speak for all such, when I offer to both of these gentlemen, as professors of the Jefferson Medical College, a most heartfelt greeting.

There are, however, many here, who, having listened to and profited more directly from the teachings of both of these gentlemen, would claim to be thereby more interested on this occasion than those who have not had that good fortune.

There are also many, who, having but recently come to Philadelphia, attracted by the wide-spread fame of our Alma Mater, and anxious to enjoy all the advantages which others have had here, may deem themselves more interested than the rest of us in the event that has brought us together.

But, gentlemen—graduates and students of the Jefferson Medical College—the oldest of us cannot, and, I am sure, will not yield to any of their juniors, or to those who aspire to the honors of our Alma Mater, in doing homage to any and all of her worthy professors, but especially to those to whom, from peculiar circumstances, they have had so constantly to look for aid and counsel in the trials of their professional lives. The law in reference to all "good men and true," such as we wish to honor to-night—that the better you know them, the more you must love them—allows of no distinction based merely upon time.

I know that I, though not the oldest, and far from the youngest here, can speak with as full a heart, though not, perhaps, with as smooth a tongue as any, the satisfaction which we all feel at the safe return of these well-beloved teachers and friends. We all feel that, though they have been away from us, for rest and even recreation, they have neither of them been unmindful of



the exactions of our calling; that they have neither of them been idle, but on the contrary, busy lookers on in the old world, and that through their ripe experience and mature judgment, we are all to be benefited by what they have seen and heard.

It is, therefore, Professors GROSS and PANCOAST, with mingled feelings of pride and satisfaction in what you have done for us in the past, and of interest in what you will do for us in the future, that we *all* rejoice at your return, and *all* wish for you both long continued good health and happiness. And in these good wishes we are joined by the many others that you see here around you. It was originally contemplated that this reception should be an expression of welcome to you on the part of your former and present pupils only; but it has grown, through the desire of a host of others to participate in it as your entertainers, to be a grand ovation from the profession and the community in which you have so long and so faithfully labored.

We have also here some of your many friends and admirers from a distance, and hope, by the expressions of their delight and satisfaction at seeing you once more, not only to add zest to this occasion, but to make it one to be remembered as amongst the pleasantest of your eventful lives. For these and *all* your friends, whether present in body or in spirit only—and they could not *all* be here except in the latter condition—I am commissioned to offer you a most hearty welcome home, and for them all, I invoke God's blessing on you, and pray that He may long continue to prosper you as He has done in days gone by. [Applause.]

Professor Gross responded as follows:

Allow me, Mr. President, to thank you most cordially for the kind words just addressed me through your eloquent spokesman, and for the excellent manner in which they have been received by your distinguished guests. Such a welcome is eminently fitting our feelings, and it is difficult for me to find language to express my own sense of gratitude. The announcement, soon after my arrival from Europe, that it was the intention of the alumni and pupils of my Alma Mater to give my colleague, Professor PANCOAST, and myself a public reception, took me. I confess emphatically, by surprise. I was wholly unprepared for such an honor. Now that I stand in the presence of this large assembly of my fellow-citizens, members of the learned professions, the mercantile community, and the various walks of literature, the arts and sciences, the question naturally arises, what have I done to merit this distinguished honor? Is it because I was temporarily absent in Europe? Is it because of anything good or great that I did before I went abroad? If I were a great general, just returned from the battle-field, covered with glory and crowned with laurels, I could readily comprehend the reason for such a mark of your attention. But I am neither a warrior nor a statesman, and have not been in any battle, nor did I, during my absence, negotiate any treaty of peace, or amity, or of commerce with any foreign power. I went abroad and returned as a common

citizen, proud, it is true, of my profession and of my country, but of nothing else.

But although I am neither a warrior nor a statesman, nor able to lay claim to any great discovery or improvement in my profession, I may confidently assert, without fear of successful contradiction, that there is no man who has watched that profession with a more jealous eye, or who has taken a deeper interest in its prosperity, its honor, and its dignity, than I have. My loyalty and devotion have never flagged. In all my intercourse I have never wilfully wronged any human being, or done ought to cast discredit upon its escutcheon. What STRABO said of the poet is equally true of the physician; no bad man can be the one or the other. I have ever scrupulously respected the HIPPOCRATIC oath.

It was but a few weeks ago that I had the pleasure of witnessing the proceedings and ceremonies attendant upon the presentation of the freedom of the city of Edinburgh to General LORD NAPIER, with whose exploits in Abyssinia, in asserting the supremacy of the British army, every one is familiar. It was pleasant to see the enthusiasm with which this distinguished soldier was welcomed, and the kindly feeling which was from all sides showered upon him. Though he could not lay claim to the honor of being a native of the city, he was nevertheless greeted as a countryman, and the highest civic distinction in the gift of the Scotch metropolis, so renowned for its illustrious citizens, was freely awarded to him for the great signal services he had rendered his native land. The swelling emotions which animated the breast of the hero of Magdala, as he stood before that grand audience assembled to do him honor, was not greater than that which I experience upon this occasion. The wreath which entwined his brow was not dearer to him than this free offering of your esteem and kindness is to me. I have accepted this honor at your hands, because, as was so gracefully expressed in the invitation of your gifted young Secretary, it was designed as an exhibition of the love and veneration felt for me by my professional brethren, especially the alumni and pupils of a great medical college with whose interests and prosperity my own have been closely identified for the last thirteen years; an institution which may boast of a noble parentage—of belonging, in fact, to one of the "first families," the daughter of a school of which any land might justly be proud. I allude to the University of Pennsylvania.

I have accepted this honor because it is the highest tribute which a man can receive from his fellow-citizens, and from the members of our own profession. I need not say how deeply sensible I am of your kindness. I rejoice to be again in the midst of those with whom I have so long labored to uphold the honor and dignity of our noble profession, and in whose personal success I shall ever feel a deep, nay, let me add, a parental interest. It is to me no less gratifying than it is true, to be able to say that, during my visit abroad, where I had an opportunity of seeing many of our most distinguished brethren in the Old World, I saw no more able, learned, or skillful practitioners, teachers, and writers than

are assembled here to night. I think, sir, that if a traveller learned nothing more than to appreciate fully his country's greatness, he would be amply compensated for the peril and expense of his voyage across the Atlantic. As God made woman more beautiful and perfect than man, because he created her last, so he endowed this continent—this last and best gift to the human race—with beauty and perfection nowhere visible in the Old World.

Every one acknowledges with a hearty free will the extraordinary activity and enterprise of our physicians and surgeons, and the rapid strides which we are developing in our national literature. CASSAIGNAC, the great French surgeon, said to my honored colleague and myself in one of our visits to the famous Lariboisier Hospital, "You have just reason to be proud of your country. America at this moment wields the surgical sceptre of the world." Our military surgeons have no equals. The reports of the Surgeon-General of the United States are read with avidity, and American works of medicine and surgery are used in the medical libraries of Europe.

Although it would not be fair to judge a man's knowledge by the number of books he reads, yet there can be no doubt that the more labor of this kind he performs, the more likely his intelligence to be complete and accomplished. It was pleasing to hear our profession spoken of in terms of high respect and commendation. As a nation, America commands admiration. The works of Messrs. KENT and STORY are in every lawyer's library in Great Britain, and the writings of BARNES, HODGE, CHANNING, and other divines, are to be found on the shelves of England, Scotland, and Ireland.

It may be recollected that I was commissioned at the last meeting of the American Medical Association at Washington to represent that body in the British Medical Association at its meeting last August at Oxford. That meeting was largely attended; many of the members were men of great eminence and learning, and every opportunity was embraced by them to speak in the kindest manner of their American brethren. Our delegates received a hearty welcome, and everything was done to make them comfortable and happy during their sojourn at that great seat of learning. From what transpired, there is reason to believe that the Association will now be annually represented on this side of the water.

There is one thing that strikes an American in viewing the great literary and scientific and charitable institutions of Europe with admiration, such as he cannot feel for his own. It is the respect which is everywhere shown to the memory of their great and good men. Portraits, busts, and statues adorn alike the halls of learning and of legislation, the courts of justice, the gallery, the hospital, and the medical school; and thus serve to inspire the visitor not only with a love for his particular pursuit, but an ambition to excel in good works, and an admiration for a people who know how to reward their servants while living, and to cherish their memories and their virtues after they are dead.

In the hall of Christ Church College, Oxford, at the great dinner of the British Medical Association, I felt, as I responded to the toast kindly offered in compliment to the American delegation, as if every portrait in the large and majestic room were watching me and saying, "Hear! hear! hear!" and felt as if ten centuries were looking down upon that grand and learned assembly. In our city, so distinguished for its charitable, literary, and scientific institutions, there is a singular absence of everything of this kind. We have not one solitary monument of a great man, not even of Washington or of Franklin, to inspire our youth with ambition, or to warm the heart of a stranger as he walks along our streets.

But I must not prolong these remarks. Already I have trespassed too much upon your patience. However, before I take my seat, permit me again, Mr. President, to thank you, and through you this large assembly of good and great men, for the honor they have done me in coming here this evening. I have been the recipient of perhaps as many compliments as a man of my age and of my humble position could expect, but of all that have been bestowed upon me, this is the most precious to my feelings, and the one which will be most cherished by my family long after I shall have gone to "that undiscovered country from whose bourne no traveller returns." [Applause.]

After Professor Gross' remarks, Professor PANCOAST rose from his seat and responded as follows:

MR. PRESIDENT, THE ALUMNI, AND STUDENTS OF JEFFERSON MEDICAL COLLEGE: I find myself at a loss for language to acknowledge in proper terms my sense of the kindness which has prompted this magnificent reception of my colleague and myself on our return from a foreign journey. My colleague has already expressed, in better terms than I can possibly do it, the sense of our common obligation; for there are situations so unusual and so deeply touching, that when the heart is full the tongue is inadequate to find expression. I have listened with much emotion to the address of your eloquent orator—my much valued friend.

I have glanced over this array of distinguished and prominent men—in which I find many who are my compeers in age and position—many also, who have been my associates in the different hospitals of this city, and a still greater number in whose education I have had the honor to assist. I find a few also assembled at your bidding—distinguished gentlemen of our profession from the different great capitals of our country, high dignitaries of the other professions, and our worthy Governor and Mayor. What can I offer to you—what can I offer to them—in return for this gracious mark of their kindness and consideration, but the sincerest thanks of a very grateful heart? Yet I am not willing to arrogate to myself, or scarcely even to attribute to my distinguished associate in the honors of this evening, merits so conspicuous as to be the sole cause of this magnificent meeting. I look rather upon this brilliant scene as a tribute paid in the abstract by a generous brotherhood to the toil-worn honors of our profession. And what

renders it of deeper value, it is a tribute paid by men who have won their own laurels, and know full well the measure of their cost.

My brethren, what a life of toil, what a life of anxiety, is that of a physician! And yet how full of interest and incident taken in all its length and breath from the very outset.

The fervent zeal of the ambitious student—his lofty and philanthropic views in regard to the nature of his mission—his loneliness and despondency in his early days of practice—his struggles by unrequited services to the poor to acquire personal experience—his hopes so long delayed for a fair arena to display the ability he is conscious of possessing—his nights of unrest when the life of a patient lies trembling in the scales—and his pride and exultant joy when he believes he has rescued him from impending dangers. How well you all know this! Did the world at large know it as well, and know at the same time the earnestness and devotion with which the profession strives to fit itself for its most difficult duties, how much more freely would it give us its confidence!—how much smoother would be the path that the physician has to tread!

No man more highly estimates the importance of our art and its national reputation than myself, and I was anxious once again to compare it, in its American form, with what I might see abroad. And from what I have observed in the Old World I am convinced that sound experience, and diligent and successful search for the truth of science, are just of as much value, and as frequently met with on this side of the water as the other; and I believe, moreover, that no American physician qualified to judge rightly, when he compares the practice of the different branches of our art in the Old World with the New, will find occasion to blush for his countrymen. In general, the members of our profession do not hold so high a social rank abroad as with us; nor are they, if I have had the opportunity of judging rightly, superior in regard to general acquirements to men of the same station in our own country. It is true that in Europe some men of peculiar prominence in our art are rewarded with titles and decorations, and take in society the rank to which such distinction entitles them. With us the man who is so happy as to possess the full confidence of his professional brethren needs no other mark of distinction, and a thousand decorations of the Legion of Honor would not compensate for its want.

My friends, while I feel, as I before observed, little disposed to arrogate to myself any peculiar claim to play the distinguished part that has been assigned to me this evening, I am proudly conscious that my colleague and myself have received in this spontaneous and kindly welcome an honor of much higher value—one not to be worn on the collar, in the garish light of day, but to be embalmed in the memory and enshrined in the heart. And now, gentlemen, let me once more ask you to accept my most cordial and grateful acknowledgments for this overwhelming tribute of your kindness and respect. [Applause, which continued for some minutes.]

Shortly after the conclusion of the foregoing speech, and while the Germania Band were discoursing their choicest music, Professors PANCOAST and GROSS were escorted by the committee to the vestibule to partake of a most superb banquet, which was under the charge of Morris, the caterer. The tables were spread with the choicest delicacies and decorated with flowers.

After partaking of the banquet in a most hearty manner, loud cries were made for ex-Governor POLLOCK to give a toast, whereupon Governor POLLOCK said:

Now, gentlemen, give me your attention for a few moments. We have heard that even in the multitude of counsellors there is safety. I feel to-night for myself, and for the profession which I represent, and for the strangers who are here, that in the multitude of physicians and surgeons, sickness can find no place, and therefore I feel perfectly secure on that account, and in behalf of the other professions, to extend a cordial welcome to Drs. PANCOAST and GROSS, who have returned from abroad [applause], and also to other eminent physicians and surgeons who are with us to-night by invitation. [Applause.] We greet you all, gentlemen, to-night, and are gratified that we have the opportunity now to express to you our high appreciation of your worth, and the high dignity and honor of your profession. First in the rank of learned professions stands the physician and surgeon.

I desire now to say in behalf of my friends, Drs. PANCOAST and GROSS—they were referred to to-night as venerable gentlemen—that I believe, and my feelings in relation to those gentlemen and others are, that age is not to be numbered by years. You may count your twenties, fifties and hundreds, and yet old age has not been reached by those who, like these gentlemen keep pace with the progress of time. No, gentlemen, Professors PANCOAST and GROSS would still be young though an hundred years had left their mark on their brows!

I am not here to-night to preach, it is after dinner to be sure, and the wine has circulated freely, and honoring my friends I will honor myself and you by keeping silence. Good night, gentlemen. [Applause.]

DANIEL DOUGHERTY, Esq., was then loudly called for, and responded as follows:

I must confess, gentlemen, that I am in a rather peculiarly perplexing predicament. Governor POLLOCK boasted a few moments ago that he felt very well. I confess that I am sick. I want a physician [laughter], but who will I select in this party. If I happen to select two or three—why doctors may disagree, then I will be in a much worse position than I am now. The idea of a poor lawyer standing in such a presence as this. I have nothing to say. I appreciate very kindly the compliment which has been presented to me by inviting me to be present to do honor to two of the most eminent citizens of our beloved city, men who would do honor to any profession and to any community. [Applause.]



It is a delightful thing to see that men of brains are appreciated to their full extent. It is customary, too much so, to shower all honors and distinctions upon the warrior, upon those whose aim it is to destroy. It is a glorious thing that we are here assembled to honor and extend the welcome to those whose aim and aspiration it is to save. [Applause.] Of all the professions—I do not call the sacred ministry a profession, it is something beyond a profession, it is a calling from on high—we must regard that of the physician and surgeon, who ministers to save the community and restores it again to health, as the noblest, the brightest, and the best.

We are proud of our profession—it is to secure and defend the rights of man. But our profession, noble and generous as it is, must stand abashed in the presence of the other profession.

I love to see this testimonial to these noble gentlemen. I desire to say that there is one point in which we lawyers have the advantage of you of the medical profession. We expect a "retainer." [Laughter.] We expect to be paid in advance. Gentlemen, take my advice—and I will not charge you anything for it—and adopt that; it is a very good plan. [Renewed laughter.]

Allow me as a brother of the law—a sort of a brother-in-law, I suppose I might say—to extend, on behalf of the citizens of Philadelphia, a hearty welcome to these eminent gentlemen, and to call upon Dr. SAYRE, of New York, to respond. [Applause.]

Dr. SAYRE said:

GENTLEMEN: I am sick, and I must apologize to the audience present for not being able to make you a speech. It is an impossibility for a person from New York, after having partaken of your sumptuous feast, but more especially after having listened to your eloquence and to the eloquence which has been preached here from these steps to-night, even to attempt to say one word, and with my usual modesty [cheers], I am more overpowered than I ever was before, and feel less equal to the task. [Laughter.]

I feel proud, however, to hear the distinguished member of the bar bless our profession, as it should be blest, above all others. I agree with him in that one sentiment—even blessing my own profession above that of the clergy. We are engaged in restoring health to diseased bodies; bringing back reason to disordered minds; and without reason, what is man, and what good is he? Until we have discharged our mission and restored reason to his disordered mind, and health to his diseased body, even the clergyman cannot do him any good; therefore, I claim the superiority of our profession. My friend, the lawyer, said we were superior to them. We all know that; we work for charity; for the benefit of human happiness; work with the hope of no reward, except that of having done our duty to our fellow-men [applause], when the lawyer always demands his fee.

You little know the honor you have done yourselves in conferring these honors upon these gentlemen. You have honored yourselves. The profession of medicine in Philadelphia has done to-day the highest honor and merit by this

ovation to those brothers in their profession. [Applause.] You have set an example worthy of imitation by your sister cities throughout this land, and I for one honor you for it. We from New York feel proud of the privilege of being invited here. It gives me the greatest pleasure.

Dr. SAYRE then gave the toast, "Philadelphia and New York—in medicine may they always be rivals in all that confer honor, lustre, and dignity upon the medical profession." [Applause.]

Dr. J. A. MEIGS was then called for, and responded as follows:

GENTLEMEN: I have nothing to say on this occasion. I am reminded of a lesson learnt in childhood, that "children should be seen and not heard." Standing in the presence of so many illustrious lights of our science, I feel as a child, and therefore it is most appropriate and fit that I should not make you a speech on this occasion, but I will give you this sentiment or toast: "The young men of the medical profession of this city—may their hopes, their labors, and their aspirations be successful in the future," and I call upon my friend Dr. MAURY to respond.

Dr. MAURY said that he felt much embarrassed at being called upon to make a speech, that he had taken a lively interest in the proceedings from the outset, and thanked his friends for their kindness. [Applause.]

Dr. LEVIS was called for, and said:

GENTLEMEN: We have heard the eloquent speeches that have been made by our worthy guests, Professors PANCOAST and GROSS, in comparing the surgery of Paris and Europe with that of this country. We have among the guests one European surgeon, Dr. DOYLE, of Dublin, whom I call upon to address you.

Dr. DOYLE said:

GENTLEMEN: As a representative of European surgery, I fear that I am but a pigmy in the service; but after travelling over a good portion of the world, and having seen most of the places on the face of the earth, a meeting like this makes amends for all I have ever suffered from the ingratitude of patients. [Applause.] In regard to the attainments of the profession in my own country, my native modesty as an Irishman prevents me from saying much. [Renewed applause.] But if the manner in which that table has been cleared to night is to be taken as any proof of your appetites, I confess to compliment the medical profession here on the highest attainments of the science on earth.

I did feel honored by the invitation to this meeting this evening, but I did not expect to be called before it. I beg to say that I feel proud and justly proud of the compliment paid to me as a stranger from the old country.

I am not usually a man of few words, but as the hour is growing late you will excuse me from saying more on the present occasion. But I tender to you all my thanks, and I tender to Professors PANCOAST and GROSS my respects as a member of the profession, and hope long to enjoy your good feeling toward me and their friend-



ship, as members of the profession and as citizens of Philadelphia. [Applause.]

Several other members of the medical profession briefly expressed their pleasure and their thanks for the compliment paid them by the committee by the invitations they had received to be present, and also their high appreciation of the valuable services of professors PANCOAST and GROSS.

As the clock struck twelve the last of the audience were moving out of the building, all gratified with the magnificent treat they had enjoyed, both intellectually and physically. Not a thing occurred to mar the festivities, and a more delightful reunion has not recently taken place in this city of brotherly love.

#### The Female Physician Question Abroad.

The University of Zurich has already conferred the medical degree on MDLLE. SOUSLOWA. Her experience, and that of her companions in Russia, is not the least interesting episode in the history of medicine studied under difficulties. In company with several other ladies, MDLLE. SOUSLOWA began her studies at St. Petersburg in 1862, and attended for two years the lectures on natural philosophy, chemistry, and anatomy, at the Medico-Chirurgical Academy, without objection either by the professors or their fellow-students. Suddenly, however, an order came from the Imperial Government forbidding the professors to admit women to the scientific class of the academy. The reason given by the Government was that "women did better as such when they knew nothing, and understood nothing." With one exception the female students were thus compelled to leave the classes. MDLLE. SOUSLOWA then resolved to try her fortune abroad, and after some delay gained admission to the University of Zurich, with the result as above stated. She now intends to seek admission once more to the medical examinations at St. Petersburg, in order to obtain a legal qualification to practise in her own country.

#### Organic Germs in the Atmosphere.

Dr. SMITH and Mr. DANCER have been examining the air of Manchester, by the aid of the microscope; and have found it to be full of spores and other organic germs, the presence of which in probably all air leads, no doubt, to the phenomena imputed to spontaneous generation, and is probably the cause of the epidemic character of many diseases. The air was first washed by shaking it in a bottle with distilled water; and in a drop of the water it was reckoned that there were about 250,000 spores, and these only require

to be lodged in suitable situations to spring into activity. In the quantity of air respired by a man in ten hours it was reckoned that there would be about 37½ millions of these spores or organic germs.

#### Statistics of Spain.


The distinguished statistician, DON RAMON DE LA SAGRA, furnishes the following statistics of Spain during the year 1866: Total population, 15,800,000. Rate of births, 1 to 26; proportion of sexes, 51.65 boys to 48.35 girls. In every 19 births one was illegitimate; proportion of marriages, 1 to 112 inhabitants. The average number of children to each marriage as near as can be estimated is 4.6. Deaths were 1 to 34 of the whole population, 1 to 28 in the cities. 503 deaths out of a thousand were under 6 years of age.

Professor CARL BRAUN has been elected Rector of the Vienna University for the ensuing collegiate years.

— A New Hampshire paper says: "The greatest age ever attained in this State, by any person whose age was positively known, was that reached by Mr. Lovewell, of Dunstable, who died at 120. William Perkins, of Newmarket, reached 116; and Robert Macklin, of Wakefield, 115.

— Dr. W. W. POTTER has been appointed Coroner of the District of Columbia, in place of Dr. WOODWARD, deceased. Dr. POTTER was during the war Surgeon of the 57th New York Regiment, and for over a year was in charge of the First Division, Second Corps, (Hancock's), of the Army of the Potomac.

— The following is a fair specimen of the way the public is taught hygiene in the newspapers. We clip it from an exchange. "We wonder that travellers do not carry with them a little bottle of pomegranite of potash, a few drops of which would speedily purify any water. In cases where the water was turbid, the addition of a few drops of the solution of the pomegranite make it in a few minutes as clear and sweet as spring water!"

[ Readers of the REPORTER are invited to send us copies of local Newspapers, and similar publications, from all parts of the country, which contain matters of interest to the profession. They will be thankfully received, and acknowledged under "Communications received."]